

Libby Area Technical Assistance Group, Inc.  
PO Box 53, Libby, MT 59923  
May 10th, Regular LATAG 2005  
Meeting Minutes

SDMS Document ID



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(Note: bold items within paragraphs are motions made and voted on as well as action items agreed upon.)

Board Member Attendees:

Gayla Benefield  
JoElyn Brus  
Mike Noble  
LeRoy Thom  
Eileen Carney

Lee Clarke  
Jan Meadows  
Les Skramstad  
Abe Troyer

Contractor Attendees:

Cheryl Fox

1. Call To Order (7:10pm)
2. Introductions
3. Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:
  - a. It was noted that the local EPA office (Linda) has not been receiving approved minutes from past LATAG meetings. (ACTION ITEM.)
  - b. Minutes from the April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005 meeting needs to be approved.
    - i. **Eileen Carney made the motion to approved minutes from April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005, Mike Noble second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - c. Minutes from the March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005 meeting needs to be approved.
    - i. No motion to approve minutes from March 22<sup>nd</sup>. (ACTION ITEM.)
    - ii. The motion was not approved due to the review of discussion on carpets and the analytical method. Minutes need to be compared with the letter to Jim Christiansen regarding the model to be "chosen" or "created". This is in reference to the carpets and recontamination concerns. "Carpets (and carpet padding) under no circumstances should be left in properties cleaned."
      1. Gayla Benefield read a response from EPA which state "... carpets left in place have not significantly recontaminated living spaces at some time in the past. Thus asbestos within carpets does not appear to be a major source of concern. However, if a carpet that is contaminated with asbestos is removed, fibers that have accumulated under the carpet could be released into the air potentially causing short term exposure of residences and carpet workers and potentially recontamination of the house." "... there is no dust samples specifically designed to investigate asbestos levels under carpet."
      2. Jim stated that IRIS and Burman & Crump where the "tools" he can use. Burman & Crump is not a peer review model. Creating a model will take a considerable amount of time.
      3. Helen Clarke made a suggestion to have the Executive Board review the tape from March 22<sup>nd</sup> (tape #4) and make any necessary corrections to the minutes.

4. Old Business (ACTION ITEMS):

- a. ADDITION – Letter to Jim Christiansen regarding LATAG position on the Demolitions Model (**ACTION ITEM – PENDING.**) Gordon reported at the last meeting acceptance of this document. LATAG is supportive of this model; minutes show approval of this model.
- b. Compile a list of names for a Technical Advisor replacement; this list will be generated from input from Paul Lammers, Shawn Oliveira and Aubrey Miller (**ACTION ITEM – PENDING.**) A packet of information was passed to LeRoy Thom from Cheryl Fox regarding past applicants for the Technical Advisor position.
- c. Contact Diana Hammer regarding the Grant Administrator's reimbursement. (**ACTION ITEM – PENDING.**)
- d. Nominating Committee - receipt of new board member application – Helen Clarke.
  - i. **Eileen Carney made the motion to accept Helen Clarke as an additional LATAG Board**
- a. Community Resource Specialist job description is needed (**ACTION ITEM – PENDING.**)
- b. Shawn Oliveira will address the LATAG at the next meeting regarding the Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan (Agenda item – pending.)
- c. EPA response need to the Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan (**ACTION IEM – PENDING.**)
- d. Draft a "Hold Each Harmless Letter" to be presented by Gordon Sullivan. Gordon has spoken to his attorney and he stated that it did not seem to be a necessary or a vital document to be done. (**ACTION ITEM – PENDING.**)
- e. Fourth Quarter 2004 report from Technical Advisor – EBoard meeting asked to have the Grant Administrator draft a quarterly report to complete this item. (**ACTION ITEM.**)
- f. First Quarter 2005 report from Technical Advisor – EBoard meeting asked to have the Grant Administrator draft a quarterly report to complete this item. (**ACTION ITEM.**)
- g. Communications Sub-Committee will have a copy of the pamphlet LATAG and one paragraph article. Jan Meadows completed this item.
- h. Mike Noble will approach Gordon Sullivan if he would consider being on a board member of LATAG so he could continue being chairperson for the CRS Committee. Mike Noble completed this item, Gordon is not interested in being a board member.
- i. Review tape #4 minutes of March 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting. Then compare the minutes to the letter we sent to Jim Christiansen. (See paragraph 3, c, ii, 3 above.)
- j. Review Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan (**ACTION ITEM – PENDING.**) This to be done at meeting schedule for May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

5. Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan for the Superfund Remedial Investigation at Libby, Montana. Response is due to EPA by May 20<sup>th</sup>. Jim Christiansen made comments regarding the project plan.

- a. How much risk is involved (regarding four different categories)?
  - i. Concentration of the Libby Asbestos fiber.
  - ii. Frequency of exposure to the Libby Asbestos fiber.
  - iii. Duration of exposure to the Libby Asbestos fiber.
  - iv. How toxic is the Libby Asbestos fiber.
- b. Pathways to linking of exposure to the dust.
  - i. Factor calculation involves: "c" (concentration factor) multiplied by K equals concentration to the fiber. For example c (soil) \* K = c (dust).
- c. Questions rose regarding how do you measure fiber in soil, or dust, or air?

- i. Questions rose regarding how much is too much?
- ii. Questions rose regarding the height of individuals exposed to the fiber and the age of the individuals exposed to the fiber.
- iii. Various scenarios will be completed with trace and "non-detect" on cleaned properties.
- iv. PLM-VE will be the measuring method for the fiber. With this method larger areas will need to be tested due to the size of the fiber.
- v. TEM will be a "backup" measuring method. This requires a smaller area to be tested due to the resolution. This method is not working as planned.
  - 1. General costs associated with these testing methods is:
  - 2. PLM sample cost is \$55.00
  - 3. TEM sample cost is \$300 - \$800.
  - 4. Scanning Electron microscope is \$200 - \$500.

6. Technical Advisor Position:

- a. It was recommended to form a Technical Advisor Committee. It was recommended that Gordon Sullivan be the Technical Advisor to this committee reporting only to the Technical Advisor Committee. It was mentioned that possibly working with an arbitrator and Gordon to resolve his contract.
  - i. Gordon has asked his contract be terminated. Gordon asked to have his letter dated March 31, 2005 to LATAG be accepted.
    - 1. If a new contract is negotiated it needs specific guidance and parameters. The Technical Advisors role is:
      - a. Read documents and translate them to layman terms to the Advisory Committee who in turn relays them to the LATAG Board. Specific task orders are required in writing with specific time lines for completion.
  - ii. Current issues regarding Gordon as the Technical Advisor include:
    - 1. Keeping to a time line.
    - 2. His commitment to LATAG in light of his past three resignations.
    - 3. Could there be a probationary period? Including estimated time for project completions?
  - iii. Discussion followed regarding his resignation was accepted therefore no arbitration is possible. Jim Christiansen seriously recommending contacting the grant award agency regarding these discussions. He states that he feels that Gordon is not objective, his work products, and his ability to "go beyond" the scope of the projects. Also Gordon's ability (expertise) to critically evaluate "K" type factors.
    - 1. Jan Meadows seconds Jim's opinion regarding Gordon's "passive/aggressive" attitude. Jan mentions that a "buffer" or Technical Advisor Committee might improve Gordon's performance.
    - 2. Catherine LeCours (EPA) mention that estimate time to complete project is possible.
    - 3. Helen Clarke mentions that lack of Gordon's ability to write communications and to communicate in the written word clearly.
    - 4. It was discussed that EPA won't pay LATAG Board members and there have been too many instances that Gordon has acted as a well-intentioned Board Member.
    - 5. Les Skramstad mention that Gordon's attitude during meetings are not in accordance with getting along with other Board Members. Les stated his

opinion that all of us (LATAG) will suffer if we don't accept his resignation.

- b. Recommendation of a Technical Advisor Committee was made. **LeRoy Thom made the motion to form the committee, JoElyn second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**
  - i. Volunteers for this committee includes: Abe Troyer, Mike Noble, LeRoy Thom, Helen Clarke, Dr. Brad Black (participant) and Paul Lammers (participant).
7. Report – Grant Administrator – Cheryl Fox
  - a. Fourth Quarter Report 2004 due by end of January 2005.
  - b. First Quarter Report 2005 due by end of April 2005.
  - c. April Reimbursement Request (EBoard ACTION ITEM – PENDING).
8. Report – EPA (work in progress):
  - a. See above “Supplemental Quality Assurance Project Plan”.
9. Sub-Committee Reports
  - a. Nominating Sub-Committee – LeRoy Thom (chairperson)
    - i. See above new Board Member appointed.
  - b. Health and Safety Sub-Committee – Abe Troyer (chairperson) – no report.
  - c. Communications Sub-Committee – Jan Meadows (chairperson) – no report.
  - d. Technical Sub-Committee – inactive committee.
  - e. Consultant Panel Sub-Committee - \_\_\_\_\_ (chairperson) – no report.
  - f. CRS (Community Resource Specialist) Sub-Committee – Mike Noble (chairperson) – no report.
10. Special Presentations (if applicable)
  - a. Shawn Oliveira is not prepared with his presentation will present at next LATAG meeting.
11. Review and agreement on Action items generated from this meeting
  - a. See attached action items.
12. Next Meeting Scheduled – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005.
13. **Jan Meadows made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Lee Clarke second the motion. Motion unanimously passed.**